

4258. CAPSICUM ANNUM.**Pepper.**

From Capri, Italy. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 327), December 28, 1899.

"A sample of seed of a native variety of red pepper; very uniform in size and shape; dark red. Bought in market at Capri; many-seeded; very showy color."

4259. CAPSICUM ANNUM.**Pepper.**

From Luxor, Egypt. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 328), December 28, 1899.

"A variety of very hot peppers introduced into upper Egypt from the Soudan. Found growing in garden of Hadji Hammel Mohammed at Luxor. Fruits bright red, very small when ripe, and full of flavor. The plant is a perennial in hot countries but bears in one year from seed; highly prized by the natives."

4260. CAPSICUM ANNUM.**Pepper.**

From Assuan, Egypt. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 329), December 28, 1899.

"Soudanese red pepper bought in the market in Assuan, in dried state; a small form resembling 'bird pepper' in shape and color."

4261. CAPSICUM ANNUM.**Pepper.**

From Luxor, Egypt. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 330), December 28, 1899.

"Dark red, few-seeded, vigorous grower, reported of Italian origin, from garden of Hadji Mohammed." (*Distributed.*)

4262. LAWSONIA INERMIS.**Henna.**

From Edfu, Egypt. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 331), December 28, 1899.

"Seeds of the Henna are ground and used for dyeing cloth a dull red; also used by the Arabs for dyeing the palms of the hands and the finger nails. A desert shrub 9 or 10 feet high that deserves trial, as it lives without water from irrigation. Should be tried as hedge plant in southern California. Grows easily from cuttings. Blossoms white, fragrant."

4263. LIPPIA NODIFLORA.**Lippia.**

From Cairo, Egypt. Received through Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild (No. 332), December 28, 1899.

"According to Ascherson and Schweinfurth the Lippia is a native of Egypt. It has probably been used for lawn purposes for a great many years.

"It is a low, creeping plant of the Verbenaceae family, with broad, flat, obovate leaves of a deep green color. The creeping stems throw out roots wherever they come in contact with the earth, and form thick mats of herbage. It is well known that in regions with climatic conditions similar to those of Egypt, grass lawns are generally very difficult to maintain. Although there are several substitutes for lawn grasses, none that I have seen are as good as Lippia. Owing to its rapid growth, the plant can be mown closely and to a layman the lawn effects resemble closely those produced by English lawn grasses.

"In order to plant a lawn with Lippia the ground is prepared as it would be for the reception of grass seed. A mass of old Lippia is dug from some neighboring lawn or field. The native gardener cuts off or breaks off two or three long cuttings of the plant, makes a hole with a pointed stick in the soft earth, thrusts the cuttings, doubled up, into the hole and packs the earth securely about them. These cuttings are placed about 4 to 6 inches apart, quite irregularly over the field. They are given plenty of water, being sprinkled every day until well started. In winter in Egypt the lawns made of this Lippia are watered every 4 to 5 days, while in summer they are kept green by daily waterings. Every 20 days the lawns are gone over with a scythe and in this way kept quite closely mown. There is no evident reason why a lawn mower would not answer the purpose better than a scythe.